Subpart A—Original Classification

§ 2.1 Classification levels [1.1(a)].[1]

(a) National security information (hereinafter also referred to as ''classified information'') shall be classified at one of the following three levels:

(1) *Top Secret* shall be applied to information, the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

(2) *Secret* shall be applied to information, the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause serious damage to the national security.

(3) *Confidential* shall be applied to information, the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause damage to the national security.

(b) *Limitations [1.1(b)].* Markings other than ''Top Secret,'' ''Secret,'' and ''Confidential,'' shall not be used to identify national security information. No other terms or phrases are to be used in conjunction with these markings to identify national security information, such as ''Secret/Sensitive'' or ''Agency Confidential''. The terms ''Top Secret,'' ''Secret,'' and ''Confidential'' are not to be used to identify non-classified Executive Branch information. The administrative control legend, ''Limited Official Use'', is authorized in Treasury Directive 71–02, ''Safeguarding Officially Limited Information,'' which requires that information so marked is to be handled, safeguarded and stored in a manner equivalent to national security information classified Confidential.

(c) *Reasonable Doubt [1.1(c)].* When there is reasonable doubt about the need to classify information, the information shall be safeguarded as if it were ''Confidential'' information in accordance with subpart D of this regulation, pending a determination about its classification. Upon a final determination of a need for classification, the information that is classified shall be marked as provided in § 2.7. When there is reasonable doubt about the appro-

priate classification level, the information shall be safeguarded at the higher level in accordance with subpart D, pending a determination of its classification level. Upon a final determination of its classification level, the information shall be marked as provided in § 2.7.

§ 2.2 Classification Authority.

Designations of original classification authority for national security information are contained in Treasury Order (TO) 102–19 (or successor order), which is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The authority to classify inheres within the office and may be exercised by a person acting in that capacity. There may be additional redelegations of original classification authority made pursuant to TO 102–19 (or successor order). Officials with original classification authority may derivatively classify at the same classification level.

[63 FR 14357, Mar. 25, 1998]

§ 2.3 Listing of original classification authorities.

Delegations of original Top Secret, Secret and Confidential classification authority shall be in writing and be reported annually to the Departmental Director of Security, who shall maintain such information on behalf of the Assistant Secretary (Management). These delegations are to be limited to the minimum number absolutely required for efficient administration. Periodic reviews and evaluations of such delegations shall be made by the Departmental Director of Security to ensure that the officials so designated have demonstrated a continuing need to exercise such authority. If, after reviewing and evaluating the information, the Departmental Director of Security determines that such officials have not demonstrated a continuing need to exercise such authority, the Departmental Director of Security shall recommend to the Assistant Secretary (Management), as warranted, the reduction or elimination of such authority. The Assistant Secretary (Management) shall take appropriate action in consultation with the affected official(s) and the Departmental Director of Security. Such action may

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[1] Related references are related to sections of Executive Order 12356, 47 FR 14874, April 6, 1982.

include relinquishment of this authority where the Assistant Secretary (Management) determines that a firm basis for retention does not exist.

§ 2.4 Record requirements.

The Departmental Director of Security shall maintain a listing by name, position title and delegated classification level, of all officials in the Departmental Offices who are authorized under this regulation to originally classify information as Top Secret, Secret or Confidential. Officials within the Departmental Offices with Top Secret classification authority shall report in writing on TD F 71–01.14 (Report of Authorized Classifiers) to the Departmental Director of Security, the names, position titles and authorized classification levels of the officials designated by them in writing to have original Secret or Confidential classification authority. The head of each bureau shall maintain a similar listing of all officials in his or her bureau authorized to apply original Secret and Confidential classification and shall provide a copy of TD F 71–01.14, reflecting the list of officials so authorized, to the Departmental Director of Security. These listings shall be compiled and reported no less than annually each October 15th as required by Treasury Directive 71–01, ''Agency Information Security Program Data''.

§ 2.5 Classification categories.

(a) *Classification in Context of Related Information [1.3(b)].* Certain information which would otherwise be unclassified may require classification when combined or associated with other unclassified or classified information. Such classification on an aggregate basis shall be supported by a written explanation that, at a minimum, shall be maintained with the file or referenced on the record copy of the information.

(b) *Unofficial Publication or Disclosure [1.3(d)].* Following an inadvertent or unauthorized publication or disclosure of information identical or similar to information that has been classified in accordance with the Order or predecessor Orders, the agency of primary interest shall determine the degree of damage to the national security, the need for continued classification, and,

in coordination with the agency in which the disclosure occurred, what action must be taken to prevent similar occurrences under procedures contained in § 2.32.

§ 2.6 Duration of classification.

(a) *Information Not Marked for Declassification [1.4].* Information classified under predecessor orders that is not subject to automatic declassification shall remain classified until reviewed for possible declassification.

(b) *Authority to Extend Automatic Declassification Determinations [1.4(b)].* The authority to extend classification of information subject to automatic declassification under any predecessor Executive Order to the Order is limited to those officials who have classification authority over the information and are designated in writing to have original classification authority at the level of the information to remain classified. Any decision to extend the classification on other than a document-by-document basis shall be reported to the Assistant Secretary (Management) who shall, in turn, report this fact to the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office.

§ 2.7 Identification and markings [1.5(a), (b) and (c)].

The information security system requires that standard markings be applied to classified information. Except in extraordinary circumstances as provided in section 1.5(a) of the Order, or as indicated herein, the marking of paper and electronically created documents shall not deviate from the following prescribed formats. These markings shall also be affixed to material other than paper and electronically created documents, including file folders, film, tape, etc., or the originator shall provide holders or recipients of the information with written instructions for protecting the information.

(a) *Classification Level.* The markings ''Top Secret,'' ''Secret,'' and ''Confidential'' are used to indicate: information that requires protection as classified information under the Order;